

Message Text

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EUR/EE:GBROWN

EWI:OANDERSON

EUR/EE:DMILLER

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R 102107Z OCT 74

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

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FOR KOPP/HERTZBERG

E.O.11652:NA

TAGS: BEXP PO

SUBJECT: TRACER REQUEST ON COMPUTER COMPONENTS LOST IN TRANSIT
TO POLISH TRADE FAIR, MAY 1974 - TRANSAMERICA COMPUTER CO., SAN
FRANCISCO

1. JOHN R. PINKETT, MANAGER INTERNATIONAL ADMINISTRATION,
OF SUBJECT FIRM VISITED COMMERCE OCT. 7TH TO DISCUSS PRO-
BLEM OF ITEMS LOST IN TRANSIT TO THE US EXHIBIT AT POZNAN
MAY 1974. THE ITEMS ARE A DESK UNIT WITH MEMORY UNIT, DISC
DRIVE AND TAPE DRIVE MANUFACTURED BY COMPUTER MACHINERY
CORP.

2. PINKETT HAS SENT VIA APO A MEMORANDUM COMPLETE WITH
COPIES OF ALL DOCUMENTATION TO KARRY KOOP RE CASE. IN
DISCUSSION IT WAS REVEALED THAT ALL COMPONENTS WERE
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DOCUMENTED AS BEING SHIPPED TO WARSAW VIA LOT UNDER PAN-

AM AIRWAYBILL NO. 026-4669-8713 AS INDICATED IN DOCUMENTS
SENT TO EMBASSY.

3. US FIRM BELIEVES THAT ONE POSSIBILITY ACCOUNTING
FOR LOSS IS PILFERAGE AT WARSAW AND REQUESTS THAT EMBASSY
MAKE INQUIRIES OF POLISH CUSTOMS AND POLISH AIRLINES
OFFICIALS IN ATTEMPT TO ASCERTAIN EXACT POINT OF LOSS.

4. WE ARE TRYING TO KEEP PROPER PERSPECTIVE IN THIS
CASE, BUT IT SHOULD BE IMPRESSED ON POLISH OFFICIALS AND
FAIR AUTHORITIES THAT UNEXPLAINED LOSSES OF TECHNICAL
EQUIPMENT DESTINED FOR US EXHIBITS COULD ADVERSELY
EFFECT OUR TRADE PROMOTION PROGRAM AND INCREASE EXPORT
CONTROL PROBLEMS.

5. PLEASE NOTE PARA 5 ON PAGE 6 OF FIRM'S MEMO WHICH
STATES THAT THREE CONTAINERS RECEIVED UNDER PANAM AIR-
BILL ABOVE WERE LEFT IN "STORAGE" AT WARSAW AIRPORT.
FIRM'S EFFORTS TO PURSUE THIS IN POLAND FRUITLESS,
HENCE IT BELIEVES THAT TWO OF THE CONTAINERS MAY BE MISSION
ITEMS.

6. PLEASE FOLLOW-UP AND REPORT RESULTS YOUR INQUIRIES
WITH POLISH OFFICIALS. FYI. US FIRM REPORTS THAT VARIOUS
BRITISH FIRMS HAVE INFORMED IT THAT MANY HIGH TECHNOLOGY
ITEMS SHIPPED FOR DISPLAY AT POZNAN FAIRS HAVE BEEN
UNACCOUNTABLY "LOST" IN TRANSIT. INGERSOLL

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